

HELLRAISER: REVELATIONS
“What Cost Immortality?”
(MASTER, 9-11 -2014)
BY MICHAEL G. PLUMIDES, JR.

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We open in France (1456 A.D.) SYLVIUS, “The Burning Bishop of Basel” sits in the center behind a long table of Cardinals presiding over a “star chamber”- like court in Paris, sentencing Francois Letrer, as he stands before the court, helpless.

CAPTION: PARIS -1456 A.D.

I . D . CAPTION SYLVIUS, THE BURNING BISHOP OF BASEL

SYLVIUS: You have been found guilty by this high court of practicing witchcraft by fornicating and communing with witches!

2/

On an angry Francois: Hands on the table, manacles on his wrists, unshaven, unkempt.

I . D . CAPTION FRANCOIS LETRER OF THE NOBLE HOUSE LETRER

FRANCOIS: Every French Nobleman has concubines. This is absurd!

SYLVIUS: Letrer, you are hereby sentenced to death, to be burned at the stake on the morrow in the public square for all to witness.

FRANCOIS: This court is a farce! You have no jurisdiction over me!

3/

We see a full shot of the court from behind the mob. Sylvius slings holy water at Letrer.

SYLVIUS: **SILENCE, UNCLEAN THING! YOUR SORCERY HAS BEEN DECREED “CRIMEN EXCEPTUM” BY HIS EMINENCE, THE POPE, AND I HAVE THE HIGHEST AUTHORITY, CHOSEN BY THE HAND OF GOD!**

MOB: Burn him! Burn the witches!

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From behind Sylvius head; he speaks with finger pointed at Francois. Guards hold back the mob on either side. The scene is medieval, a red carpet down the center separating the crowd. Two small figures in the front row, a boy and a girl in white.

CAPTION: Sylvius' power-mad obsessions have driven his bloodlust and deviant behavior, where thousands are tortured, and burned, throughout the land.

FRANCOIS: You are but a pawn of evil, you lecherous worm!

SYLVIUS: Furthermore, the church will condemn your lands and fiefdoms.

FRANCOIS: Thieves! I am a citizen of France!

2/

On Francois' Children: Pre-teen Twins - a boy and a girl, both blond, fair, in white.

SYLVIUS: Your subservience to Satan has cast a dark shadow upon your crest. I decree your wife and offspring must be burned alongside you, to erase your circle of lies and deceit.

FRANCOIS: No, you cannot... they are innocent!

SYLVIUS: France will bear witness to the fall of your once noble house.

3/

Sylvius points to Francois' children behind him, standing among the crowd. They weep.

FRANCOIS: But to show his eminence is merciful, I will take your children to salvage them from certain damnation.

4/

Sylvius wrings his hands with sinister intent. Francois points his finger at Sylvius.

FRANCOIS: I have seen your writings! Your depravities! You will not touch my children! You are a monster!

4/

Guards grab Francois and hold him as he struggles; Francois' children as well.

FRANCOIS: You wish to extinguish me as you have done the many others who have discovered you!

SYLVIUS: There will be no extinguishing your trial by fire, Francois Letrer... and you shall be damned for all time.

PAGE 3:

1/

On Francois and his wife bound to wooden posts being burned alive in the square.

MOB: Burn them! Burn the witches!

FRANCOIS: You will be exposed, Sylvius! You will be.... Aaaarrgh!

WIFE: Aaaaaaaaaaaaaaargh! It burns, oh God, it burns!

2/

We see Sylvius wearing his robe and papal hat forcing Francois' children to watch.

SYLVIUS: Thou shall not suffer a witch to live! The deceivers, the defilers, the devil worshippers will be hunted and wiped clean by the hand of God!

3/

We see hundreds of people looking on, some chanting, with fists raised as harsh-faced men in French stand guard. Some women are crying and praying. There is mass hysteria.

CAPTION: Sylvius wields absolute power to wrongly sentence men, women, and children without impunity.

SYLVIUS: Stray from God's flock and you shall suffer!

4/

Tighter angle on Sylvius' face as he laughs.

CAPTION: The "Burning Bishop" has sent thousands across Europe to their death, for the most petty of crimes in the guise of his papal service.

SYLVIUS: Heaven wills you to pay the church for your sins! Pay!

5/

Guards pass around large copper collection plates as the mob throw their money in.

YOUNG MAN: Take the money!

POOR WOMAN I am a good woman!

MOB: Here!

OLD MAN: This is all I have!

PAGE 4:

1/

We see Sylvius in Vienna, pointing and yelling in a town square where six people, men and women are being burned.

I.D. CAPTION VIENNA WITCH TRIALS

CAPTION: Sylvius has a corrupt soul: One with a salacious appetite for cruelty, debauchery, and everlasting power.

We see Sylvius sitting at a masculine wooden table in a vast library, stain glassed windows let in red beams of light as he scribbles furiously on parchment with an ink quill. He labors intensely, a bead of sweat on his brow - a bloody hand print on his nightgown (a clenched fist shape).

Thought Bubble: Why is it never enough? It is just never enough...

CAPTION: Sylvius wrote volumes of his sadistic sexual fantasies he sold to royals at a high price – the world's first pornographer. Then he would act out those fantasies... perversions including incest, rape, and murder.

2/

We see Sylvius presiding over an orgy with clergymen, women, (one teenage girl stands crying with a finger in her mouth) inside the church as gleaming blue light shines through the stained glass. (Probably should orchestrate the scene without nudity).

SYLVIUS: God wills you to pleasure yourselves, my children.

CAPTION: Sylvius encouraged clergy to follow suit as a matter of divine right.

3/

We see Sylvius' buttocks as he holds a dagger in his hand, hidden behind his back as the orgy ensues.

4/

We see Sylvius leading both Letrer Children down a hall in his palace. The children both look up at Sylvius as he speaks delicately to them.

CAPTION: But what does Sylvius bear in store for the beautiful Letrer children?

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On Simone Letrer: A mesmerizingly beautiful, innocent pre-teen who exudes sorrow over the execution of her parents.

CAPTION: Simone and Sebastien Letrer were exceptional offspring; demure, educated, and well-groomed, thrust into a nightmare unwarranted and unjust, by an atrocious and evil man.

CAPTION: Simone: Innocent and Pure.

SIMONE LETRER: What will become of us here?

SYLVIUS: You will be educated in the ways of our church so your soul will be saved.

2/

On Sebastien Letrer: A mirror image of his sister.

CAPTION: Sebastien: A delicate boy but with fierce intellect.

SEBASTIEN LETRER: But what of our teachers? Will we be schooled?

4/

We see the Letrer Children (Simone and Sebastien) enter the library and stand in the center.

SYLVIUS: I have a vast library of knowledge. Many new things shall be revealed to you.

SIMONE LETRER: Who will care for us now our parents are dead?

5/

Sylvius locks the door to the library, turning towards the children with a creepy look; an inset of Sylvius disrobing to have sexual congress with the Letrer Twins.

SYLVIUS: I will love you both as if you were my own children...

6/

On Simone and Sebastien; their eyes wide open in shock of what is to come with a background blurred in a fishbowl effect.

PAGE 6:

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We see his eminence, The Pope, reading the label of a bottle of wine (in Latin) as he pours himself a glass in an ornate goblet. An insert: Sylvius watches from the shadows.

I . D . CAPTION THE VATICAN

CAPTION: As it were, Sylvius' diabolical plan to replace the Pope came to fruition... and his treachery goes unnoticed and unpunished.

2/

We see the Pope with his head thrown back, his hands clutched to his throat; poisoned.

POPE: Aaaarrrrrrrgh!!!

3/

A huge ornate Cathedral at the Vatican, Sylvius – a papal tiara on his head.

I . D . CAPTION THE BASILICA

CARDINAL BISHOP: From this time forward, you will be known as **Pope Capricus the First!**

4/

The crowd chants the new Pope's name as Sylvius grins wide and laughs in defiance.

CROWD: *Capricus! Capricus! Capricus!*

SYLVIUS: Ha! Ha! Ha! Ha!

THOUGHT BUBBLE I am the most powerful man in the world... and my wickedness knows no bounds!

CAPTION: Simone and Sebastien are overwhelmed with sadness.

4/

Simone and Sebastien look emaciated and exhausted, watching from the balcony.

Simone: Sylvius is now the Pope by his own hand. We will never be free.

Sebastien: We will find a way... but we must be clever and quiet.

Simone: I foresee no way out of this unholy web he has spun about us.

Sebastien: We must work together, and we may have to do things not to your liking...

Simone: We already do things I don't like.

PAGE 7:

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We see **Pope Capricus I**, sitting in his ornate thrown at the Vatican Palace, his face distraught with boredom in full Papal costume, holding his scepter in the other.

I.D. CAPTION

POPE CAPRICUS I, ST. PETER'S SQUARE

CAPTION:

After Sylvius achieved the highest religious position, and had conquered his foes, taken their lands, assumed their wealth, burned, raped and sodomized, he grew bored.

THOUGHT BUBBLE:

This malaise that has overtaken me is crippling... I need to be quickened once more. I need a new purpose... a quest!

2/

Pope Capricus I (Sylvius) in his library carries a stack of books – sweaty and distraught. A filthy Simone and Sebastien sit at the table with books stacked up everywhere.

CAPTION:

In Capricus' haste to find a quest, he turned to the very books and practices he publically condemned but secretly embraced.

SYLVIUS:

We must find a relic within these volumes to satisfy my purpose!

3/

We see the children approach Capricus (surprised) to hold his hand with doe eyes.

SEBASTEIN:

If we find this object you seek, will you let us leave the library?

SIMONE:

It gets so cold here at night. We wish to share more time with you.

SYLVIUS:

If you detect the article I speak of, locating its whereabouts, I will adopt you both.

4/

We see the children searching diligently for the relic Capricus seeks. Book after book, page after page, in different ancient languages. The children then find a "Puzzle Box".

CAPTION:

And behold, the "Abrahamic Configuration" –an ancient device of great supernatural power.

SEBASTIEN:

"A plane of existence from where the possessor will never return once opened..."

5/

The Letrer twins hug, with big smiles on their faces.

SIMONE:

... henceforth, his pain, agony, and suffering will be everlasting!

SEBASTIEN:

It was taken to Byzantium by the Orthodoxy... maybe it's still there?

PAGE 8.

1/

Sylvius looks on as Sebastien and Simone are bathed as handmaidens attend to them.

I . D . CAPTION VATICAN CITY – LATERAN PALACE

CAPTION: And Capricus did keep his promise, prideful that children are now happily in his service...

SYLVIUS: Wash up, my children, so you may lay on clean linens... with me.

2/

We see the children on either side of Capricus under a canopy bed; both nestled under his arms with eyes wide open, flushed in their faces. Capricus eyes closed.

SYLVIUS: On the morrow we depart for Constantinople. There are Turks who will help us find this “configuration” now the city has fallen.

SEBASTIEN: The device promises immortality and infinite power.

SIMONE: Yes... for the one who holds it.

SYLVIUS: Music to my ears...

3/

We see two columns of guards escorting a fortified iron carriage pulled by a team of Clydesdales, transporting the Pope and his adopted “children”.

I . D . CAPTION VIA EGNATIA – THE CONSTANTINOPLE ROAD

CAPTION: So Capricus and the twins traversed the coastline of the Aegean Sea on their way to find the “Abrahamic Configuration” in Constantinople, passage bought and paid for with stolen wealth.

4/

Columns of Papal crusaders, carriage and Turkish escorts. Constantinople is desolate.

I . D . CAPTION CONSTANTINOPLE – A CITY IN RUIN

5/

We see the interior of the once immaculate Cathedral; the stone alter still standing. A large dome overhead with a mosaic of Jesus in the center. Capricus, Simone and Sebastien enter. Sebastien holds a large book in his right hand.

I . D . CAPTION THE GREAT CATHEDRAL – CONSTANTINOPLE

CAPTION: The Great Cathedral has been abandoned, burned at the hands of the Ottomans –an onslaught secretly funded by Capricus himself.

PAGE 9:

1/

As Capricus, Simone and Sebastien stand a few feet from the charred altar – they look upon a diagram in the center, resembling the ‘puzzle box’ – a square within a circle. Sebastien opens the ancient book to the “Abrahamic Configuration” pages and reads.

I.D. CAPTION ALTAR OF SAN SOPHIA

SEBASTIEN: It says here only one of pure and loving heart can open the passageway. You must place your hand inside this circle, my father.

SYLVIUS: No... Simone, place *your* hand inside the circle.

(Insert: Simone places her hand inside the circle)

SEBASTIEN: **Στην εποχή μας, της ανάγκης που σας παρακαλώ θερμά να ανοίξετε αυτό το βωμό στο όνομα του Σωτήρα μας Ιησού Χριστού, και όλα αυτά που είναι ιερά**

2/

The altar’s lid slowly slides open revealing a flight of stone steps leading down into the catacombs underneath the Cathedral.

CAPTION: As the altar slides open, Capricus and his wards look on with astonishment as their quest for the Abrahamic Configuration grows ever nearer.

SEBASTIEN: The altar! It has opened for us with great mystical power...

SYLVIUS: Good! Excellent! You go first.

3/

We see Capricus order his knights to circle the altar to protect the quest.

SYLVIUS: My good knights, let no one enter this circle!

KNIGHT: We await your command, your holiness!

4/

In the Catacombs we see Capricus, holding a torch and the Twins search for the configuration. Ancient crypts, skulls, and religious effigies abound. Sebastien discovers a long tunnel.

I.D. CAPTION CATHEDRAL CATACOMBS

SEBASTIEN: Down the tunnel. This way...

PAGE 10:

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We see Capricus and the Twins enter a domed room that illuminates under the flame Capricus carries, exposing Abraham of the Old Testament, in a flowing robe, dagger in hand, about to sacrifice his son, Isaac, painted inside the dome in a Greek Orthodox-style rendering with Gold and black configurations resembling the puzzle box on the walls.

I.D. CAPTION THE ABRAHAMIC VESSEL... AT LONG LAST

SEBASTIEN: As we promised, Father, you are at the end of your quest.

SIMONE: Yes, our dearest sovereign and protector. We have delivered you immortality.

SYLVIUS: Open it! Open it, Sebastien and show it to me! I must cast my eyes upon it!

2/

We see Sebastien and Simone approach the vessel looking on in wonderment. Sebastien reaches into the box to retrieve it. Capricus looks on from behind with great lust.

3/

Capricus' hand pulls a dagger from his robe and holds it behind his back ready to strike.

SYLVIUS: WAIT!

4/

Startled, the children turn. Capricus slices the twins throats in one swift stroke. Their eyes bulge and blood sprays all over the stone altar. Their faces exude agony and suffocation. Their white garments run thick with blood.

SEBASTIEN: Aaaaaaargh...

SYLVIUS: Do you think me a fool to be bested by a Frenchman's children? I have known of your treachery for months!

SIMONE: Aaaaahhhh...

SYLVIUS: You wished to hold the box to bring my destruction!

5/

The Twins' bodies slump to the ground at the base of the altar. Capricus holds the puzzle box up on high.

SYLVIUS: No one else shall touch the Configuration, little ones, save only me – immortality and the ultimate knowledge of the universe shall pass to one man! And I share nothing!

PAGE 11.

1/

On Capricus' hands opening the puzzle box in the traditional way. The room darkens. The structure cracks, exposing beams of light. The room becomes a void of nothingness.

SYLVIUS: The infinite power of the Abrahamic Configuration is to be mine and mine only!

2/

The room swirls as chains and devices of torture grapple onto Capricus' arms and legs; Capricus' victims' faces haunt him from the darkness in a swirling montage. Then, in a vacuum, it stops.

SYLVIUS: What of this sorcery! I must have immortality, whatever the cost!

3/

Capricus chains so tight his bones snap like egg shells as they tighten with his every movement. From the darkness, two small figures draw ever closer.

SYLVIUS: Who is that? There in the darkness. You must help me. I am a... holy man!

4/

We see a pair of TWIN CENOBITES, as dimensions know no time relation, the Twin Cenobites are a similar versions of Pinhead but resemble the Letrer Twins.

GIRL CENOBITE: You are a hollow man...

BOY CENOBITE: ...and many holes you shall have.

SYLVIUS: Who are you! Release me! I have wealth beyond imagination and will pay any price!!

BOY CENOBITE: You will be educated in the ways of our church.

GIRL CENOBITE: Many new things shall be revealed to you.

SYLVIUS: Sebastien? Simone? How can this be?

5/

On the Twin Cenobites as more chains and clamps descend upon Pope Capricus I.

BOY CENOBITE: Oh, we have such sights to show you...

GIRL CENOBITE: ... and we will tear you soul apart.

SYLVIUS: Nooooooooooooooooooooo!!!!!!!